

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed on March 12, 2007, has been reviewed and the comments of the Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Prior to this paper, claims 1-4 and 6-12 were pending, with the status of claim 4 (previously indicated as being withdrawn) being rejoined, as the claim has been allowed. By this paper, Applicants cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 11 and 12. Therefore, claims 1-4, and 6-10 are now pending.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance for at least the reasons that follow.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks Examiner Ho for allowing claims 1-4 and 6-10. In reliance on this indication, Applicant has cancelled the non-allowed claims in order to advance prosecution and expedite issuance of this application as a patent.

Acknowledgement of References Cited

Applicants respectfully request that the reference listed on the form submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements filed by Applicants on November 28, 2006, be initialed by an examiner and a copy of the form showing the initialization be provided to Applicant's agent. An additional copy of the Form PTO/SB/08 is enclosed for the PTO's convenience in Appendix A.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Nakamori (United States Patent No. 6,799,109). In response, in order to advance prosecution,

and without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicant has cancelled claims 10 and 11. Applicant respectfully submits that as a result of the cancellation of these claims, the anticipation rejections in the Office Action are now moot.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, and continued favorable consideration is requested.

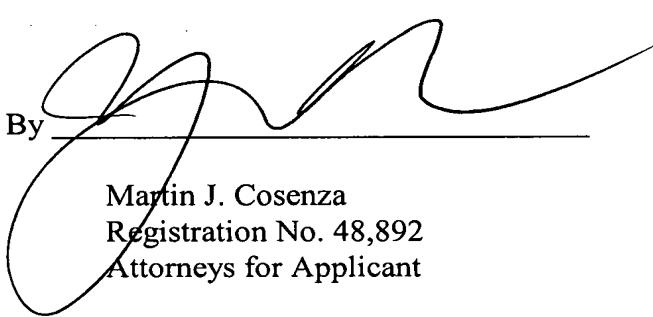
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Examiner Ho is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date June 12, 2001

By



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APPENDIX A